



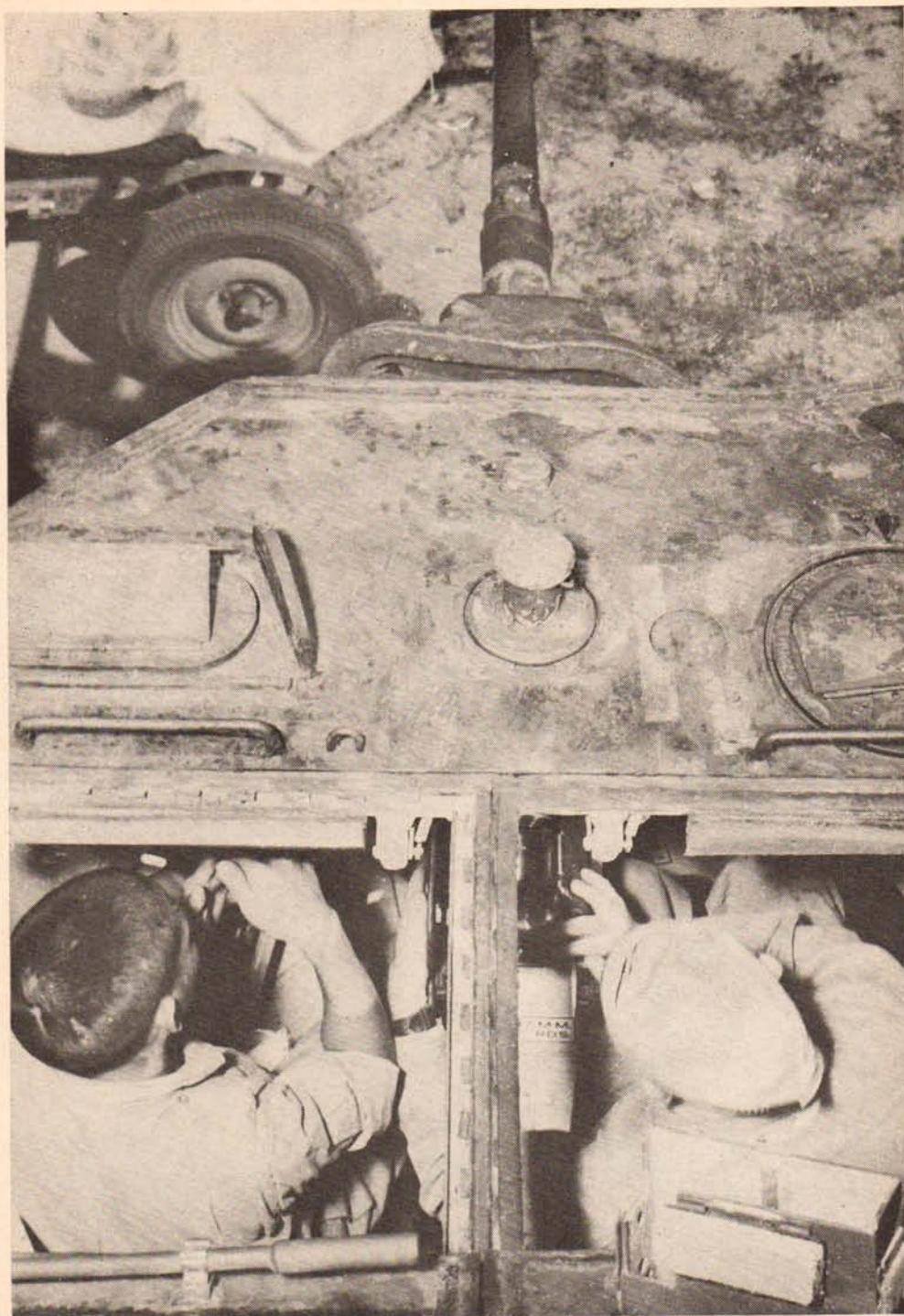
# *Ex-CBI Roundup*

—CHINA—BURMA—INDIA—

DECEMBER

1962





CHINESE SOLDIER gets sighting and aiming instruction on 37 MM tank gun mounted on M3-A3 tank at Ramgarh Training Center in India. Photo submitted by Ray Kirkpatrick.

# EX-CBI ROUNDUP

CHINA-BURMA-INDIA

Vol. 16, No. 10

December, 1962

Ex-CBI ROUNDUP, established 1946, is a reminiscing magazine published monthly except AUGUST and SEPTEMBER at 117 South Third Street, Laurens, Iowa, by and for former members of U. S. Units stationed in the China-Burma-India Theater during World War II. Ex-CBI Roundup is the official publication of the China-Burma-India Veterans Association.

Neil L. Maurer ..... Editor

## CONTRIBUTING STAFF

Clarence R. Gordon ..... Associate Editor  
John Felts ..... Photo Editor

SECOND CLASS MAIL PRIVILEGES AUTHORIZED at the Post Office at Laurens, Iowa, under act of March 3, 1879.

## SUBSCRIPTION RATE

\$3.00 per Year	Foreign: \$4.00 per Year
\$5.50 Two Years	\$7.00 Two Years

## Please Report Change of Address Immediately!

Direct All Correspondence to

## Ex-CBI Roundup

Laurens, Iowa

P. O. Box 125

## Letter FROM The Editor . . .

• A news release about the war between India and China mentions that it involves "such little known places as Tezpur, Imphal, Jorhat and Dibrugarh." Glory be! To Roundup readers, these names are as well known as Chicago, Los Angeles, Pittsburgh and Kalamazoo! Thousands of former American GIs knew that territory mighty well only a few short years ago.

• We wonder if the U.S. government will make use of the knowledge of the CBI area and its people possessed by some of the capable men and women who served there during World War II. There are many who have much to offer.

• This month's cover shows a Chinese tank crew at the Ramgarh Training Center, with an American instructor ahead. Photo was furnished by Ray Kirkpatrick of San Francisco, Calif., whose story on Ramgarh appears in this issue. We've had a number of requests for an article about this interesting place, and are now happy to present it.

• Postal rates will take another jump in January, with first class postage increasing 20 per cent and second class going up even further. It's hard to tell how long we can maintain our present subscription rates in the face of constantly rising costs. YOU can help by keeping your subscription paid in advance, so we can avoid unnecessary correspondence, and by notifying us promptly of any change of address.



## Farewell, Chuck Stacy

• There were tears in the eyes yet a smile upon the faces of the Chinese elders watching the 1961 reunion Puja night parade as it passed through San Francisco's Chinatown. Their applause was for a poor old Chinese farmer on his way to market to try to sell a few scraggly chickens. No CBIVA reunionist could ever forget that great characterization and his many, many wonderful contributions to the success of our reunions. We cannot say that he is gone, he is just away. Vale, Chuck, vale.

RAY KIRKPATRICK,  
San Francisco, Calif.

## Still Looking

• Have subscribed to and enjoyed the Roundup for a long time, BUT if there has ever been a mention of the 12th Bomb Group (M) or the 82nd Bomb Squadron (M) I missed it. We were there 28 July 1944 to 21 June 1945.

JIM PADGETT,  
Spartanburg, S. C.



WATER BOY at Infantry Training Center near Kunming.  
Photo by Naomi J. Kenward.



RADIO TOWER at Tezpur, as seen from a plane on the field. Photo by Raymond B. Brunner.

**Tezpur Air Base**

• Here are photographs of the former ATC air base at Tezpur, Assam, India, where I was stationed during 1944-45. These photos were taken just a few years ago by a friend in Tezpur. As you will notice in the papers, Tezpur is the current headquarters for the Indian Army in its battle with the Chinese in the northeast frontier area, which is just north of Tezpur. The airfield itself is almost the same as it was during World War II. However, the barracks area has reverted to the jungle. The air base at Misamari also is covered by jungle. Since the war the railroad from Calcutta has been extended to Tezpur. During World War II the railroad ended at a small town several miles from Tezpur, by the name of Rangapara. The narrow gauge railway which during the war ran from Tezpur to the airfield has been removed. The former Army hospital on the road between the airfield and Tezpur is still being operated. For the past several years it has been run by an American missionary. The Catholic Mission, with its church and school on the banks of the Brahmaputra River, is still in Tezpur. However, the priest who came to the airfield each

Sunday, Father Joseph I believe his name was, has been transferred to Calcutta.

RAYMOND B. BRUNNER,  
Fort Wayne, Ind.

**Joshua Decorah Sanford**

• Joshua Decorah Sanford, 43, who was born in a wigwam at Friendship, Wis., and became the only American Indian to serve during World War II with the Flying Tigers in World War II, died recently at Madison, Wis. His father, a Seneca Indian, was a graduate of Cornell University and his grandfather was Chief Decorah. A much-decorated flight commander, Sanford was credited with shooting down eight enemy planes during his tour of duty.

HANSON BARTMESS,  
Minneapolis, Minn.

**India to Wisconsin**

• Some years ago a CBI-er asked for a report on the Anglo-Indian GI brides. We have the story of one. Pfc. Russell L. Winger was assigned to the 1959th Quartermaster Truck Company. In June of 1945 he and Miss Marjorie Catwell were married in Calcutta. Later in 1945 Winger returned to the U. S. In 1947 Mrs. Winger and baby joined him on the farm near Gilman, Wis. The crossing was made by merchant ship which took 60 days. The ship was delayed two weeks at Suez while being repaired after a collision in the Canal. In July of 1957 Mr. Winger lost his life in a tractor accident. Mrs. Winger continues to live on the "home place" with her five children: John, 16; Sandra, 14; Russell, 13; Barry, 11; and Teri, 6. Mrs. Winger's new friends and neighbors were very considerate and kind in helping her to adjust to her new life here. One adjustment she says she has difficulty with is adjusting to the cold winters and deep snows of Wisconsin, an adjustment some of us "natives" find difficult too. Mrs. Winger's only present ties with India are her memories as her relatives and friends have gone to live in England. Since Indian independence the situation has grown "somewhat difficult" for Anglo-Indians.

CARROLL F. SMITH,  
Holcombe, Wis.



PASSENGER and air freight terminal building at Tezpur. Photo by Raymond B. Brunner.



VIEW from 475th Infantry emplacement near Namphakka, Burma, in January 1945. Photo by Reuben A. Holden.

**First Photo Outfit**

• Left New York on May 10, 1943, with the 21st Photo Recon. Squadron, bound for China. We went by way of Trinidad, Rio de Janeiro and Capetown. Then we went to Diego Suarez in Madagascar, arriving there shortly after the British defeated the Free French warships in the harbor to prevent their being turned over to the Germans. We saw the hulls lying in the bay, partly underwater. Then we went to Colombo, where we changed ships. The 21st went on the S.S. Strathaird. We arrived in Bombay about June 25, 1943. We marched ashore directly to the train and rode across India for seven days to Vishnupur. A few days later 35 of us were transferred to the 9th Photo Squadron, the first photo outfit in CBI. We replaced a 9th detachment that was in China. The 21st then took over the 9th detachment when they arrived in Kweilin. With the 9th, I was in Pandaveswar, Dianjan, Barrackpore, Myitkyina and Piaradoba. I left in July 1945 on the Mauretania to return Stateside. I guess most of the boys do not know of the existence of Ex-CBI Roundup as I never see any mention of either the 9th or the 21st in its pages and I have been a subscriber for four years.

The 9th was one of the real veteran outfits of the theater; when I joined them they already had been in the theater 13 months.

IRVING MORITZ,  
New York, N. Y.

**Roy E. Rice**

• Col. Roy E. Rice, USAF, died recently in Baltimore Hospital. He flew special missions to India and Australia in World War II. He leaves his wife, Leona, of Woodbury, Conn.; two sons, Richard of Pontiac, Mich., and Donald of Mexico City; two sisters, one brother and two granddaughters.

LOUIS W. GWIN,  
Percy, Ill.

**Leroy J. Hendrickson**

• Leroy J. Hendrickson of Sioux Falls, S. D., a CBI veteran, died October 2 after a short illness. He was a printer at Sioux Falls and lived with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. John Hendrickson. CHARLES MATTOON, Sioux Falls, S. D.

**Karachi Commando**

• Always in search of news, memos, etc. of the Karachi Commandos' "motan kids" so here are a few lines that some may recall. I was with the 306th AAF Base Unit at Karachi. Frank Hjara, Sherman (Tex) Anderson and I crewed old 617, "My Assam Dragon," a C-47 Hump reject. We and a host of others set a record with her during the month of April 1944 by keeping her in the air 393 hours. An average of over 13 hours per day. As I recall, some pilots didn't like her because of a slight twist in the wing and lack of speed. Maybe that was why we were in the air so much! As for me, I have operated a Sohio service station for the past five years here in this rural village of Bladensburg. I know not what the future holds for me, but I do hope it's including the Roundup.

GLENN DAVIDSON,  
Bladensburg, Ohio



PERSONNEL of 475th Infantry, Mars Task Force, cross a stream near Tonkwa, Burma. Photo by Reuben A. Holden.

# Ramgarh Training Center

BY ROY KIRKPATRICK

## "Stilwell Military Mission To China"

A keen student of Chinese history and culture, perhaps the Army's best authority on China, Gen. Joseph W. Stilwell, was chosen for an assignment to be known as the "Stilwell Military Mission to China." In February, 1942, a small group of officers and enlisted men were flown to China. They were to absorb a previous group known as "The Magruder Mission."

The Stilwell Mission was to be purely a training assignment until fate decided otherwise. It was to train and equip a mobile striking force within the Chinese Army that could be depended upon to maintain a land line of communication with China.

But while Stilwell was en route to the assignment in China, Rangoon had fallen. Exit that land line.

Upon arrival in China, under the then existing conditions, Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek appointed Stilwell as Chief of Staff of the Chinese Army and Commanding General of the Chinese Expeditionary Force in Burma. Stilwell exercised this command until the Allied Forces were defeated in Burma and their exodus to India and China got under way early in May 1942.

It was during the famed walk-out of Burma, May 7 to 20, 1942, that Stilwell perhaps first formulated plans for what was to become known as Ramgarh Training Center, U. S. Army Forces, C. B. I.

Tucked away in a mild jungle portion of Central India was a station known as Ramgarhtown on a branch line of the Bengal Nagpur Railway. Located some 284 miles northwest of Calcutta in Bihar Province, it was an overnight jaunt, a sleepless jaunt on the "Ranchi Express" to this unusual spot in the center of the Damodar River Valley.

Perhaps this was "Eden" itself. At least the village minstrel, for two pice, would tell you a tale of how creation itself first sprang into existence here in this very valley. Indian archaeologists in recent years have turned up evidence that it has been the home of mankind since time immemorial.

This commodious trough between the plateaus of Hazaribagh to the north and Ranchi to the south was a rarity in the CBI. The climate was mild, mosquitoes were scarce and the water was good. Nearby, at the junction of the Damodar and Bhera Rivers, was a gorge whose



READY for combat, a Ramgarh-trained Chinese Army unit is shown on parade.

scenery was surpassed only by the Himalaya area itself.

The Ramgarh forest produces nine varieties of commercial hardwoods and numerous by-products such as lac, gum and dyes. A rich mineral region, in 1940 it had 238 mica mines in operation—enough coal, iron and limestone to care for India's needs for all time, along with quartz, lead, manganese and copper.

Although the average Indian never wanders more than a few miles from his own village during his lifetime, the minstrel wanders from place to place, a walking newspaper carrying stories of life and death within families, of the new village well tax, of what was going on in the outside world. He was supposed to be an authority on local history also.

Recorded history of the area before the 16th century is obscure but for half an anna the minstrel would put his imagination to work and tell various tales at various times of how Ramgarh got its name. Some of the tales were beauts but this one sounded best:

Back somewhere in Indian time, anywhere between 500 and 5,000 years ago, there was a former King Ram who was also a saint living in distant Benares. His saint name was "Ramnagar." He was deprived of his property by his family and driven from his home. He became a recluse in the forest near modern Ramgarh. In the same forest the eldest daughter of King Okkak also lived. They met and loved and the saint built a town by rooting out a kola (sanskrit plum) tree. The town grew and was first named Ramnagar after the saint.

As the area grew more populous, protection was needed, so it was surrounded

## Ramgarh Training Center

by a circle of forts with a central fort. Hence the Hindu sanskritised word, Ramgarh. Ram meaning "chief," garh meaning "fort."

Ramgarh had been the scene of warfare or military activity since the first known invasion by the Mughals into the area in 1585 A.D. In 1771 A.D. the area passed from what was known as the Muhammadan Period into the British Period. From 1818 A.D. to 1889 A.D. Ramgarh was the scene of five savage rebellions. It was 1900 before peace was restored to the area.

The camp area itself was a military encampment of various kinds under the British and finally became a camp for Italian prisoners of World War II until it was turned over to the Americans in 1942.

These Americans built the Ramgarh Training Center, U. S. Army, C.B.I., into an achievement that left a brilliant page in military training history. The dates: June 1942 to June 1945.

\* \* \*

### "Ramgarh Training Center, U.S. Army Forces, C.B.I.

It was to have but one objective—"the creation of a modern fighting force which could stand toe to toe and slug it out to a victory over the Japs."

Within a few days after the "walk out party" arrived in Imphal on May 20th, plans for Ramgarh were being formulated. Remnants of the "walk out party" arrived on the scene at Ramgarh during June to lay the ground-work. On July

2, 1942, the first American organized unit, Det. Co. "A," 835 Signal Service Bn., arrived to set up a message center.

The camp area had been leased from the British along with other areas. To the west Col. Fredrick McCabe had selected an area for the infantry training grounds while to the east Col. George W. Sliney had arranged to lease 25,000 acres for the artillery range and training grounds.

The initial problem was how to put across the training program handicapped by the language barrier. A request for Chinese interpreters and instructors had to be placed with the Generalissimo. U.S. Army technical books had to be quickly revised and simplified to be reprinted in Chinese in Calcutta.

By the time General Stilwell first arrived on the scene the afternoon of Aug. 16, 1942, a good foundation had been laid for what was to prove to be one of the military world's most unique training centers. The mystery of Western warfare had to be absorbed by some 66,000 Chinese soldiers that were to cross the "Hump."

General Stilwell's choice to head Ramgarh's first activities were: Commanding General R.T.C., Brig. Gen. Fredrick McCabe; Chief of Staff Chinese Army in India (C.A.I.), Brig. Gen. Hayden Boatner; Commanding Officer Service of Supply, Brig. Gen. William Holcombe; Executive Officers, R.T.C., Col. John MacLaughlin, and S.O.S., Major Blaine Hoover Jr.; Adjutants, R.T.C., Major



CHINESE soldiers of 38th Division are set to fire 30 cal. machine gun, as U.S. Army NCO instructors supervise carefully.

## Ramgarh Training Center



ON INSPECTION tour of CATC are Colonel Andrews, operations officer; Lt. Gen. Daniel I. Sultan; Brig. Gen. Frederick McCabe, commanding RTC; Major Bay, infantry section; and Major Lamy, infantry section.

Joseph O'Brien, and C.A.I., Captain Alvin Larson.

Under General McCabe, Colonel Sandusky and Colonel Black as his Chiefs of Section were to head the infantry training program.

Brig. Gen. George Sliney was to be Chief of the artillery section and First Commandant of the Ramgarh Artillery School to be aided by Colonel Robert M. Cannon.

Ramgarh Training Center was divided into four main sub-divisions: Infantry, Artillery, Armored Force and the Special Units Sections.

Wise to the ways of the Chinese and with a keen understanding of the problems of "saving face," among General Stilwell's first well remembered orders to those first officers was "that no American was to lay a hand on any Chinese under their command."

Discipline and administration of the C.A.I. was to be the responsibility of the Chinese officers but the technique and training were to be all American. Friction developed at every level between the two factions but General Stilwell always managed to find a mutual solution to such problems.

The British were to supply the food and the silver rupees to pay the troops. Payment of the Chinese troops was to be taken out of the hands of their commanding officers and made directly on the parade grounds into the hands of the individual Chinese soldiers.

The Americans were to supply the equipment, radios, rifles, field pieces, tanks, trucks and all instructors.

Plans to train a Chinese combat force of at least 45,000 met some opposition from both Chiang and the British but

General Stilwell's ideas were finally accepted by both.

The Ramgarh Training Center was now a reality.

### "Grandaddy and His Hospital"

He was Grandaddy to the nurses, those Burmese girls that had been with Col. Gordon Seagrave and his unit that had taken part in the walk-out. Upon their arrival at Ramgarh they were faced with countless problems.

The ex-P.O.W. hospital at Ramgarh had 22 wards each in a separate rough brick building with cement floors and surrounded by barbed wire. Five wards for operating rooms and clinics were separated still further from the rest of the hospital.

Capacity of the entire P.O.W. hospital was 750 beds but the possibility of such a need was considered remote. So plans were laid for a 400 bed hospital.

Soon the 22nd Chinese Division began to arrive after a ghastly time escaping from Burma. During their first train ride in their lifetime from Ledo to Ramgarh, 15 men died in one group alone and were buried en route. At least three trucks from each train had to be rushed to the hospital upon arrival at Ramgarh. To have three or more die within hours after reaching the hospital was common.

The 38th Chinese Division had walked out of Burma over the road to Imphal that Stilwell had used. Their condition when they reached Ramgarh was deplorable. Among the diseases they brought were "naga sores," ulcers that eat down to and through the bone.

From two divisions alone, two and three wards had to be opened up with each new day. The 400 beds were soon



COLONEL HINWOOD, Chief of Infantry Section, CATC, surveys firing practice of Chinese officers of the 90th Regiment, 30th Division.

## EX-CBI ROUNDUP

## Ramgarh Training Center



LIGHT TANKS of the Armored Force testing tank obstacles constructed by the Chinese 30th Division Engineer Battalion.

filled. The 98th Station Hospital under Major Warrenburg was ordered to Ramgarh.

By the time they arrived there were 1,200 beds and soon 1,350 beds filled with Chinese, all in a 750 bed hospital.

Col. Seagrave later gave full credit to a lone, brilliant laboratory chief, an American, Lt. Chesley, for the prevention of serious epidemics during those first days in the life of the Ramgarh Training Center.

When the last of the 22nd and 38th casualties were fit and discharged to duty the hospital census dropped to

around 700 where it usually remained.

Dr. Seagrave and his Burmese nurses, veterans of the first Burma campaign, were a God-sent blessing to Ramgarh.

### "Chih Hui Pu"

In order to coordinate the work of the R.T.C. with the Chinese Army, a headquarters was set up to be known as Chih Hui Pu (Chinese Army in India). Brig. Gen. Hayden Boatner was its first Chief of Staff. Later it was divided into two echelons with Boatner as Chief of Staff Forward Echelon and Brig. Gen. William Bergin as Chief of Staff of the Rear Echelon which remained at Ramgarh. The headquarters was staffed by 19 men. They were important contributing factors to the success of Ramgarh.

R.T.C. was different from any of the service schools at home. It handled all training of all branches and arms of the service in one school. It combined the training of both individual officers and enlisted men. The language problem was solved by giving instructions through interpreters. Language classes to teach spoken Chinese to Americans were established. Later advanced classes in Chinese reading and writing were added.

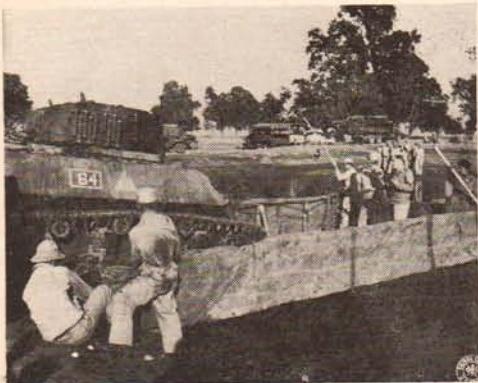
In the early days of the school the operations section was known as the Office of Director of Training. It was a normal G-3 Section Active.

"Infantry" to teach the Chinese to crawl on their bellies, take another step, fire another shot and to hold the ground was the job of 124 GI instructors. Infantry



BICYCLE PLATOON lined up for inspection at Chinese 38th Division Headquarters, Ramgarh.

## Ramgarh Training Center



TRUCK is driven onto a canvas-bamboo raft in Armored Force and Engineer field problem at Chinese American Training Center. American officer (in field jacket) gives hand signals to tank driver.



CHINESE soldiers are shown in field problem at CATC, with tanks in background.

school classes covered weapons, tactics, liaison and jungle warfare. Taught were rifle, tommy gun, machine gun, bren gun, bayonet, hand grenade, mortars, anti-tank gun and battle indoctrination.

"Artillery"—Due to the mountain terrain, lack of roads and the monsoon the big guns have a tough assignment in this part of the world. One hundred and twenty-seven G.I. instructors gave out an unusual intensive and thorough training known as the Fort Sill method. The results won the later acclaim of military leaders of our allies. They were amazed at what had been accomplished with the Chinese. There were classes in pack artillery, 105 mm. howitzer, 155 mm. howitzer, assault gun, detail and materiel.

"Armored Force"—The armored force

was the youngest of the training sections. It was activated June 8, 1943. At its peak there were 447 G.I. instructors in tank driving, tank maintenance, wheeled vehicle maintenance, battlefield recovery, tank communications, tank weapons, armorers, gunnery, assault gun battery and anti-aircraft.

First chief of the special units section was Col. Paul Leiber, who later was succeeded by Col. William Roberts. Along with some 350 G.I. instructors, the section was responsible for training of various units in communications, transportation animal and automotive, repair of equipment ordnance and materiel, gas warfare, heavy mortars, minefields, construction of roads and bridges, first aid, hygiene, sanitation, occupational therapy and the care of animals.

During its lifetime R.T.C. had a total of 1,183 G.I. instructors.

Brig. Gen. Holcombe had the ground work laid and a Service of Supply in operation in July 1942. He was later succeeded by Col. William Fuller. Ramgarh was 14,000 miles from the great source of supply, good old "Uncle Sugar." They were responsible for supplies, not only for the American personnel but the Chinese as well. There were quartermaster, signal corps, engineers, ordnance, finance, A.P.O., post hospital, military police, and special service units to do the job.

The answer to the question of whether or not the Ramgarh Training Center was the success that was hoped for is best told in the second Burma campaign. In the spring and summer of 1944, General Stilwell led a highly trained Chinese army into combat against the Japanese in the hard fought Hukawng and Mogaung valleys campaigns. Later it was the Battle of Myitkyina. By the end of July 1944 the count of dead Japs exceeded 20,000 and 35,000 square miles of territory had been retaken.

The 124th Cavalry, that later was to



CHINESE ARMY cemetery at Ramgarh, showing some of the elaborate monuments.

EX-CBI ROUNDUP

## Ramgarh Training Center



DEMONSTRATING the long thrust, Chinese infantryman is shown in bayonet practice at Ramgarh.

become a part of the Mars Task Force, was also trained at Ramgarh after most of the Chinese were trained.

On October 19, 1944, General Stilwell was recalled from the C.B.I. theatre. The following letter appeared on the front page of the next issue of the "Ramgarh Bullsheet":

Office of the Commanding General  
United States Army Forces  
China-Burma-India  
20 October 1944

Brigadier General Fredrick McCabe  
Commanding General, R.T.C.  
A.P.O. 628

My Dear Gen. McCabe,

My best wishes to you and your staff. You have made Ramgarh the symbol of China's New Army, and the solid foundation you have laid there has already had its effect. It may well have a vitally important effect on this war and on

China's future. You have carried the heavy load that has been put on you in a highly efficient way, and I am proud to have been associated with your effort. What the Chinese troops have done so far has been largely due to what they learned at Ramgarh, and their accomplishment is closely tied to yours. I am sure that they will vindicate your confidence and justify all your labor. Good luck.

Sincerely,  
J. W. Stilwell  
General, U.S.A., Commanding

On February 4, 1945, the first convoy of American trucks drove into Kunming, China. The long lost land line into China had been reestablished.

Ramgarh Training Center's job was a mission completed. Its days were now numbered. By May 1945, Camp Ramgarh was rapidly becoming an American ghost in an Indian jungle. By the last week in May 1945, it was down to a lone signal corps unit, good old Det. "Co. A," 835th (now the 3105th) Signal Service Bn.

In June 1945, three years minus a day, "Det. Co. A" drove the last small jeep convoy through the gates of Ramgarh. The following day the last lone American officer officially closed the camp. "Thirty" had been written on Ramgarh's page of military history.

After the camp was returned to the British it was again the scene of some military activity. Both British and later on the Indian army moved onto the scene.

Were an old Ramgarh hand to return today he would find the camp in the midst of the Great Damodar Valley Project. India, in time, hopes it will be comparable to our Tennessee Valley Authority. Nearby is the huge Bokharo Thermal Plant.

It is there for peaceful purposes, the son of the old village minstrel would say.

—THE END



GENERAL STILWELL inspects Chinese rifle class at Ramgarh. Results of this training were evident in the second Burma campaign.

# India Fears for Assam

By D. N. DAS GUPTA  
North American Newspaper Alliance

With Chinese troops fighting their way across the Himalayas toward the Assam Plains, India is taking a cold, hard look at what is at stake in its extreme north-east state of India.

With an area of 85,000 square miles (including the northeast Frontier Agency) Assam ranks as the seventh largest state in the Indian union.

Her population, however, is just under 12,000,000, making Assam the state with the smallest population after Kashmir.

BETWEEN 1901 and 1941, Assam's population grew by 78 per cent, twice the rate for India as a whole.

This is, however, due less to natural increase than to immigration from Bihar and overcrowded Bengal.

Unlike the rest of India, Assam suffers from a chronic labor shortage; every year many thousands of workers are brought in from Madras and other states to work on the plantations.

CONNECTED with the Indian "mainland" only by a corridor, Assam is almost completely cut off from the rest of India. Roads are few and in bad condition.

The whole state is surrounded by impenetrable, luxuriant forests, and her valleys are cut through by numberless rivers.

For 2,200 miles, Assam is bordered by Tibet and Bhutan in the north, by Burma in the east and by Pakistan in the south and in the west.

The central part of the state is the long, narrow tract of the Brahmaputra Valley: lush, fertile, with some of the wettest spots in the world.

In Cherrapunji the rainfall averages 424 inches a year, and when the monsoon comes, the Brahmaputra swells and cuts through the embankments.

The entire valley is then covered by water and reddish mud—hence the name, Red River.

When the rains cease, the water withdraws and the valley is once again fertile.

Rice is plentiful and is the main staple of the people. There is a flourishing cotton industry, and some of the best silk in India is made here.

The famed Blue Hills yield excellent timber, cane, and bamboo.

TEA used to grow wild on the slopes, and still does in a few places. But it is on the great, cultivated plantations that

most of the tea is grown—close to one third of the world's total supply.

The plains give oil seeds, mustard seeds, sugar cane and jute, most of which goes for export.

Last year, out of India's production of 5,670,000 tons of crude oil, 2,750,000 tons came from Assam. Oil prospecting has been going on for several years and experts suspect the presence of rich deposits.

At present, little coal is being mined, but the area's potential is believed to be significant. Limestone and bauxite are also found here.

It is the contention of scientists that a large measure of the mineral wealth of Assam is as yet untapped.

THROUGHOUT her history, Assam has been subjected to a number of invasions from the north and the east. A steady trickle of tribes from western China to the Himalayan valleys is known to have taken place since time immemorial.

Until the British took over in the last century, Assam was ruled for 700 years by a dynasty of such migrant Mongoloid kings as the Ahoms.

The hills hold tens of thousands of semi-civilized, fierce tribesmen who belong to hundreds of different tribes, many still unidentified and inaccessible.

The racial picture is bewildering: here diverse strains of Australo-Asians, Dravidians, Mongoloids and Aryans are mingled. The dominant streak appears to be Mongoloid.

ASSAM'S PEOPLE speak 120 languages, half of which are said to be indigenous to the area. The official language is Assamese, which is mainly Indo-European, but most of the dialects spoken are Tibeto-Burmese.

The area has a reputation for tribal restlessness, internecine warfare and uprisings. By and large, the British managed to keep themselves out of these troubles, but the Indian government did become involved in Nagaland.

It is feared among the more civilized and prosperous plainsmen that the recurrent strifes in the hills may be fomented and exploited from beyond the northern border.

The situation here is aggravated by Mao's reported plans for a Mongoloid federation in the Himalayan region. India considers such an ethnological unit an "absurdity"; the Chinese, however, are unlikely to withstand the temptation to come out in the open and claim the Mongoloid tribesmen as their kin.

FOR CHINA to seal off Assam's narrow

corridor with India would be a quick and easy step.

Given the precarious state of Indo-Pakistani relations, it does not seem likely that such a complete encirclement of Assam did not occur to Mao.

Another course of danger lies with the truculent, elusive hill people: a long, bloody guerrilla war in Assam's subtropical jungles could be corrosive to India's morale and international prestige. Historically, the Chinese drive toward

the tropics has been a long steady and unrelenting process which took place even without military support, mostly as a result of the gradual absorption of non-Chinese ethnic groups.

Today, when Peking commands an army between 2,500,000 and 3,500,000, it is unrealistic, in the view of many Indians, not to question the fate of the rich, fertile, and relatively scarcely populated southern neighbor, Assam.

## Gooney Bird Plays Tag in the Clouds

BY AL DOUGHERTY  
Historian, MATS

A huge MATS turbofan thunders up the runway, dwarfing a frail-looking C-47.

They are symbols of the growth of airpower—from a struggling infancy to a stalwart maturity.

The new MATS C-135B can carry a payload of 82,350 pounds more than 3,000 miles, non-stop.

Beside this towering rodan of the skies, the C-47 is a small bird indeed.

Yet this same little worn, serviceable "gooney bird" played a vital role in the struggle to build strategic airlift, and proved its worth in many a hectic situation.

Back in 1943 the C-47, along with bigger planes, was carrying its share of the load over the tough Himalayan or "Hump" route from India to China. These were the tense days when the Air Transport Command, wartime predecessor of MATS, was proving that strategic airlift could solve apparently insurmountable problems.

On an afternoon in October 1943 a prowling Japanese Zero corners Capt. Billy B. Barclay's C-47 high over the Himalaya mountains. The enemy makes a diving pass at the lumbering cargo plane, ripping up the tail.

This is a situation! No arms, no armor—what is Billy B. going to do?

He noses the heavily laden transport down for an undercast 10,000 feet below. As the C-47 roars downward at 350 miles an hour, the enemy zooms in for a second pass, ripping more holes in the fuselage but failing to hit a vital spot.

Now the transport hits the undercast and plunges through. Capt. Barclay pulls his screeching bird out of its dive and levels off about 1,000 feet below the clouds, never expecting to see the Zero again.

But he is there—streaking out of the cloud bank to follow the C-47 down

among the mountain peaks into a closed-in valley where he gives the gooney bird a third burst. Still surviving, Barclay zooms his plane up into the overcast again.

For 40 minutes, over jagged peaks, he gropes around on instruments, but he keeps on flying. He keeps the engines running until he touches down at destination, and the enemy never shows. The C-47 is shot full of holes, but none of the crew is hurt.

The same energetic attitude of doing something instead of worrying about danger prevails in MATS today.

If we regret the curtain going down on the C-47, we still have the C-130E and the C-135B to make new conquests in aerospace.

In fact, we're making them today.



### Lapel Pins

(Screw-on Type)

\$1.00

Price Only      \$1.00      Each

SEND FOR YOURS TODAY

### Ex-CBI Roundup

P. O. Box 125      Laurens, Iowa

# A New Look At Old India

From The Army Times

By TIMES STAFF WRITER

Soldiers in India during War II were struck by the dirt and poverty of that then British colony. Any westerner visiting India in 1962 is struck again with the two blights.

Some days after returning from India the dirt and poverty of what is sometimes mistakenly called the world's largest democracy (it is a "sovereign republic") remains as the sharpest memory of a short visit.

When we touched down at Calcutta's Dum Dum airfield on a 600-mph Air Force jet transport, it seemed that we had traveled years rather than 6300 miles from Frankfurt, Germany.

\* \* \*

TO HAUL the U.S. supplies—our jet had carried .30 caliber machine gun ammo—the Indians had produced ancient flower-decorated vehicles. They could have been Henry Ford originals.

Despite the lack of paint on the trucks, several drivers labored hard polishing hoods and fenders. Others, less ambitious or perhaps smarter, slept on the ground.

Riding into Calcutta, I—and other reporters later confessed they thought about it too—wondered when we'd get to the nice part of the city.

\* \* \*

NOT FAR from the airport, workmen used axes on a huge tree. With typical Asian patience, the same men were working on the same tree a few days later when we left bursting Calcutta.

That city, which schoolboys associate with the "Black Hole" where 123 Europeans were crushed or smothered to death in a single night in 1756, has more than six million inhabitants. Shortly after War II, the city claimed a little more than two million inhabitants.

A United States Information Service aide told me that Calcutta has not made the progress that some of India's other cities have. It is overcrowded, short of housing and jobs, and displaced farmers and refugees from East Pakistan add to the city's burden.

\* \* \*

AMERICANS going into India were warned not to drink the water, even in the hotels where we lived. Perhaps taking the warning too much to heart, some of us tried a diet of cashew nuts and warm scotch for several days. Most of us gave in finally but carefully selected our food.

If there was one concrete benefit of

our journey it is the discovery that substituting scotch for water when brushing your teeth is a treat.

Members of the Indian press and USIS aides recommend several "fine" Chinese restaurants in Calcutta. Even though the restaurant had recently made a point of being operated by "Formosa Chinese," you risked the ire of demonstrating Indians if you patronized them.

Some of Calcutta's more patriotic but un-Ghandian residents were making it rough on the local Chinese.

\* \* \*

THIS FACT was not lost on one Asian family who wanted it understood they weren't Chinese. On their car they had placed signs in three languages telling the world "We're Japanese."

The Indian officials we talked to in Calcutta make Arthur Sylvester look like a big mouth. They're hard nuts to crack and usually answer the most mundane query with, "I see by the papers this morning . . ."

I did get one diplomat to say that India was "willing to go the full 15 rounds with China if necessary." Obviously a boxing fan, he later said he had lost money on Flyby Patterson.

\* \* \*

MY DIPLOMAT friend loosened up later at an officers club at historic Fort William in downtown Calcutta.

In the face of the Red Chinese attack and an apparently "neutral" Russia, we asked, would India continue her non-alignment policy?

For the public record we may, he said. "But we have had our eyes opened. We know who our friends are now."

We wondered aloud about the sale of Russian MIG fighters to India. The Indian said he doubted the planes would be turned over to his nation. But if they are, he said, they won't be newer models. (American officials Army Times talked to also doubt that India will receive MIGs).

\* \* \*

FOR THOSE CBI vets still wondering if the dung pattice retains its prominence in India, we must report it remains supreme in Calcutta. Huts still sported dung patties pressed hard on their walls to dry.

In front of the huts on the outskirts of the city run open sewers in which children play and women wash clothes, dishes and pots.

In downtown Calcutta, men who are physically small by our standard were

the beasts of burden. Unlike their Asiatic brothers in China and Korea, the Indians disdain the A-frame. Men hauled huge loads of jute, a local product, coconuts, and venders peddled their wares. Tired coolies spread out a cloth to sleep on the sidewalk.

\* \* \*

BEGGARS are still present in Calcutta. "Not as many as a few years ago," says one India vet, Dickie Chappelle of Reader's Digest. Our USIS guide said Indians don't have enough to eat, but they don't die en masse now of starvation.

Neil Sanford of the Christian Science Monitor expressed another view. He called Calcutta "appalling" and cited the "human skeletons," dying in the streets. Men who spend years in a country

may never get to know it, and we don't attempt to "expertise" after spending only hours in Calcutta and New Delhi.

Stuart Loory of the New York Herald Tribune, another member of our party, may have put it best in a recent dispatch from Tezpur in India's threatened Assam province:

"First-time visitors wonder just what is typical of India—the poverty of Calcutta, the broad streets and beautiful homes of New Delhi, or this rural community in the heart of the Assam tea and rice belt."

\* \* \*

AN INDIAN describes his country best probably in the words Prime Minister Nehru once used: "India is a bundle of centuries."

—THE END

## CBI DATELINE

*News dispatches from recent issues  
of The Calcutta Statesman*

CALCUTTA—An old beggar woman, arrested by the Calcutta police in a city street for alleged obstruction of traffic, was found to be carrying Rs 2,400 in currency notes. Inquiry is said to have revealed that the woman, about 70, was a professional beggar though her only daughter worked as a maid-servant.

CALCUTTA—The silver jubilee of Hindusthan Standard, one of the city's daily newspapers, was celebrated recently in the ballroom of the Grand Hotel. One of the speakers pointed out that the spirit of rebellion which had characterized the newspaper during pre-independence days should now be harnessed to the fight against social and economic evils.

DACCA—An unruly mob of 2,000, including students, attacked a passenger train at Netrokona, in Mymensingh district, causing considerable damage to railway property and injuries to 13 policemen. The incident took place when a mobile court, travelling in the train to check ticketless travelling, refused to release six students arrested because they did not have tickets. Many in the mob squatted on the track to keep the train from moving. The crowd then stoned the train, and forcibly took away the arrested persons. It also ransacked the station. The Government decided to impose collective fines and take punitive

measures against the people concerned in the incident at Netrokona and in areas where such incidents would occur in the future.

CALCUTTA—The Agriculture Department of the West Bengal Government received about 21,000 applications for 500 vacancies for field workers' posts. Appointment of these men will bring the total amount of field workers to over 5,500 in the State. After recruitment, the candidates will have to undergo training for two years in the State's nine training centres. During the period of training they will receive a stipend of Rs 50 per month. On completion of the training, their grade of salary will be Rs 125 to Rs 150.

DELHI—It is reported that the number of persons engaged in the manufacture, smuggling and sale of illicit liquor in Delhi is today larger than ever before, running into the thousands. Senior officers are wondering whether it is time bluntly to tell the Union Home Ministry that prohibition in Delhi has failed and it just cannot be made to work.

RINPUNG DZONG—Nine colourfully stamps were issued from Bhutan's first post office here October 12. These were Bhutan's first-ever postage stamps. It is reported that the 15n P stamp, bearing the portrait of the first Bhutanese Maharaja, will not be used in Bhutan. This apparently is because the present Maharaja has taken exception to the unflattering likeness of his grandfather.

KARACHI—Five ICA Commissary clerks in Karachi leading a hard life on Rs 175 a month jointly won a fortune in the Irish Sweepstakes. The lucky ticket was one of 10 sent as a gift to a 10-month-old baby boy by his uncle in Uganda. The boy's parents were so broke that they sold nine tickets to their friends. The tenth was bought jointly by the baby's father with his four friends.

# Willie Writes From China

BY GENE SIRI

After our return to God's Country at the close of World War II, I corresponded with several of our old Chinese colleagues of CBI days. In most instances my correspondents were men who'd been assigned as interpreters to our First Heavy Mortar Regiment to which we were assigned for the duration of hostilities as combat liaison personnel.

One of our close Chinese friends of CBI days was H. T. (Willie) Kiang, a young well-educated chap who'd acquired his degree in political science with minors in both English and Russian. Willie was an intelligent man of my own age and we'd always hit it off together very well.

At war's end, Mr. Kiang returned to his home, married and acquired a position in Shanghai where he subsequently fathered a boy. He was employed by the Nationalist Chinese CNRRA Supply Office.

Shall cite below three of the letters which I'd received from Willie and still have in my possession. The contents may be of interest to readers of Ex-CBI Roundup and Ex-CBI personnel.

\* \* \* \* \*

Security Branch  
CNRAA Shanghai Supply Office  
31 Bund, Shanghai  
February 8, 1946

Dear Capt. Siri.

This is to thank you for your cooperation when we fought with the common foe both in the India-Burma Theatre and in the China Theatre. Personally I should thank you for your kind courtesy when I was in Ledo and in Chen-kiang. How is everything going on in the States now? Have you got any civilian job? Or you are still in the Army?

Now I'm rendering the service in the Security Branch as an inspector in charge of the Investigation Division. This autumn I shall be sent to the States by the Chinese Government but it depends upon the decision of Dr. J. A. Mei, now a Chinese Judge for the Allied trial of war suspects in Japan.

How about your new girl friend? I've got married. My wife and I live in Shanghai. My parents are still at home, Suez Village, Chen-kiang, Kiangsu.

Hope you will write me always and tell me some exciting news! In China everything is beyond expectation. Nothing exciting.

Sincerely Yours,  
H. T. Kiang

CNRRA Shanghai Supply Office  
31 Bund, Shanghai  
February 11, 1946

Dear Capt. Siri.

Yesterday afternoon my Grandfather dropped me my letter of Jan. 18 from 248 North Chekiang Road and I was so glad to read over it. I remember that three days ago I just dispatched out a message to you. That message will reach you safely, I think.

Have you quitted Fort Meade? How about your tonsils now? It should take three weeks for recovery. I hope this finds you in the best of health, away from hospital since.

What are you doing at Edgewood Arsenal? In charge of all vehicles or Armament or Ammunition? I know nothing about Americanized arsenal. Could you tell me some thing which is not so confidential that an foreign may well know its organization and its system.

I've got married with Miss Kong. She is a country girl, faithful, sincere and intelligent. I wish her to learn the Russian language, with me, for I just begin to review my poor Russian phrases and sentences from Feb. 1 on. She likes American chewing gum very much. If you will buy one box for her and sent it to CNRRA Shanghai Supply Office, 31 Bund, she would appreciate highly and I would send you back the money.

Tell me when you get married and not forget write me frequently.

Sincerely yours,  
H. T. Kiang

\* \* \* \* \*

Note: I had just been assigned from leave to the Officer Replacement Pool, Edgewood Arsenal, Md. for subsequent duty assignment. While awaiting duty assignment, was sent to the Statton Hospital at Fort Meade, Md., to undergo a tonsillectomy but by the time of surgery I'd come down with a cold, was discharged from the hospital pending recovery from subject cold.

Returned to the Replacement Pool from which transfer orders were received, assignment duty at Deseret Chemical Depot, Tooele, Utah.

\* \* \* \* \*

(This letter was written on office letterhead stationary)  
Saturday Morning  
April 6, 1946

Dear Gen. Siri.

You may go further anyway if you have a lot of time and such interest as

tion. By the way you can imagine how glad am I to receive your letter of March 4.

Now I'm telling you the following:

(1) Mrs. Kiang, the ex Miss Kong Chung Li, is not the only one whom I correspond while we were in India. She is rather. Later on I shall send you one of her photos.

(2) Shanghai is indeed a great city, but no greater than New York in America. Yet some of the American GI's like to stay here. They praise it because it gives them much more privileges than that other foreigners could have, because it allows them to do everything they desire to, and because it makes them happy as to forget they themselves live in Shanghai. They are proud of being "New Yorkers" here. Such a such, indeed, it is no boast.

(3) You know it very well that the friendship between Americans and Chinese are extraordinary close. To the Chinese eyes, Americans are the sons of God, the well-to-do human being in the world, the best unit which forms the United Nations Organization, the lovely people who help their right neighbors and the heroic race that end war by war. Based on the above logic, the Sino-American relationship is being hastened to create a thrilling force which stabilizes the world-wide uncertainty. To the American eyes, the Chinese? I suppose in a world to come, China should be a factor to maintain the Far Eastern peace. Without such a factor, a World War No. 3 is inevitable. But China now is a poor country that can perform no world service; for she lacks the efficiency in administration and consequently the great function of industry, either heavy or light, goes no further and nowhere. Owing to this, we require the help from outside and the reform from inside. 5-Star General Marshall, special envoy of (Mr.) President Truman knows everything of our country. You, General Siri, will do much work for helping us. You are not Post Adjutant at the Deseret Chemical Warfare Depot, but Chinese Ambassador of an American Citizenship.

(4) This office is purely a civil outfit under the auspicious of the Executive Yuan. I'm a Commissioner, formerly going everywhere the Director wants me to go, right now sitting here all day to operate "on duty" personnel for inspection. My branch is a big inspection office of 208 men and 16 female workers. In my office only a woman works. Though she is 34 years old, she likes to talk with me. We are facingly sitting on each side of a big desk. Sometimes other

"Here I am,  
"Where you are  
"Never forget that I love you  
"Though she is a young lady  
\* \* \*

"Willie, Willie,  
"I have many many ideas,  
"May deal with you,  
"Before you go abroad  
\* \* \*

"Last night, I slept well  
"All I dream—but a young man  
"Willie!

Another time she wrote me again:

"God gets me puzzled,  
"I can't sleep well last night  
"What I dream is but  
"Willie, Willie & Willie  
\* \* \*

"I'm not tired if call you  
"One hundred times of Willie  
"You kiss me  
"I will be always under you spell.

Dear General! How about scenery in my office? You have many beautiful young girls working in your office, how about pick up some one whom you consider as a right one. Hurry, Dottie was no more yours, hurry, hurry a Lady Marine in Chicago, hurry, hurry, let me know your success.

(5) The Chinese Troops moved to Northeastern provinces (we don't call it Manchuria) are 5th, New 6th, New First, 8th, 74th, 94th. Whether they are able enough to control a big area of 1,303,143,250 cubic kilometers, the Central government doesn't know. New 6th moved by L.S.T. under the command of Admiral Cooke embarked on Shanghai and Hong Kong Wharf. 2nd Bn of 1st Heavy Mortar Regiment went with 22nd Division. Their P.O. is as same as that in India-Burma Theatre, i.e. Chinese A.P.O. 331 or 501. Colonel P. S. Feng quitted H.M.R. on January this year. He received a letter from Mukden stating that war atmosphere is spilling here and there. They killed "bandits" 24,456 including the Japanese captives (as firemen) and the — (as operations officers). You like to get correspond with Maj. Hsu! The Hq. of HMR and the 3rd Bn moved to my home city, Chen-kiang. Colonel Chu Loo formerly the Bn. Commander, now is Vice Regimental Commander in the Hq. I saw Gen. Hsu one time when he was on the Jeep and I on the tramcar. Their address is: Chinese A.P.O. 501 Sub. 2004.

(6) Fan-Yi-Kwan's like Mr. P. S. Choo is in Shanghai. He gets back to school again. His original school, Nanking University, is still in Chengtu, West

## Willie Writes From China

China, so he now enters National Chiao Tung University. His address is as follows:

Mr. P. S. Choo  
4 Liang Tzen (mean Good Villa)  
Henry Road  
Shanghai (Telephone (76532)

Others, I don't know.

(7) Please remember me to Dailey, Monk, Kremer, Fantaski and others old friends whom I know.

(8) Thank you for your brief description of your camp, of your office and of yourself. Also thank you tell me Tooele, Salt Lake City and your romance in Chicago.

(9) Finally thank you send me a gift of Chewing Gum.

(10) All I want to know is your new acquaintance with an ideal girl friend, later your partner who will make both you and herself a lifetime of happiness and glory.

Close with a Commissioner's Chop, don't laugh me that is officially signed

Sincerely yours,

H. T. Kiang

(Mr. Kiang however neglected to affix his official Chop to the letter.)

\* \* \* \* \*

Still have in my possession, a letter dated May 22, 1946 from Mrs. Kiang, H. T. (Willie) Kiang's spouse. Shall cite the body of same here:

\* \* \* \* \*

May 22, 1946

Dear Capt. Siri.

My dear Willie mentions you many times, after his arrival in Shanghai from Chik kiang and especially told me many stories when you were both in India-Burma Theatre and in China Theatre. Remember Willie telling you how to go to Mokong from Myitkyina? After all, there was a wrong drive.

One week ago just received your most welcome parcel of Chewing gum from Tooele and was very very happy to learn that such a gift is dispatched by the only one who will happen to be a big shot in charge of S.O.S., U.S. Army someday. It seems very difficult to descript my heartiest thanks to your generous endowment.

Several days later we will send up one snapshot to you.

Write me soon as I enjoy very much Chewing every word of your excellent letter.

A lot of love,  
C. L. Kiang  
ex-miss Kong 1946

\* \* \* \* \*

Then along came a letter from Willie, written on his office stationary letter-head.

Saturday afternoon  
May 26, 1946

Dear Capt. Siri,

My wife wrote a letter replying your most welcome favour of April 21 yesterday. It was dispatched out just a while ago. Would it reach you first? Thanks for your "gift."

This afternoon I stepped in B. Josepho Art Photo Studios and took back one dozen of the pictures which was taken on May 5 at Bund Park, with Broadway Mansions as background. Here enclosed one of them to you.

As soon as you fix up your ideal wife, let us have one too.

Sincerely yours,  
H. T. Kiang

Encl. 1 photo

\* \* \* \* \*

Subject photo of Mr. and Mrs. Kiang taken beside an American type drinking fountain in Shanghai's Bund Park with green plant foliage, a very large modern steel bridge and modern 15 to 20 story masonry and steel building as background. This picture, as pictures of many of my friends occupies its space in my photo album.

\* \* \* \* \*

Willie Kiang and I corresponded until sometime in 1948 when the Communists were rampaging thru China in full swing. It was about that time when all contact with my Chinese friends was lost and I haven't heard from any of them since.

My letters from Willie, subsequent to those cited above, have been lost or destroyed but I recall the contents of one which I received in early 1948. It was a humdinger.

In that particular letter, Willie asked me if I could and would arrange for employment at Deseret Chemical Depot for himself and a friend who wished to come to the States together. He enclosed a snapshot of the friend, a cute young female, a Miss Wong.

Of course I'd advised Willie back in 1946 that I'd found the only girl for me and of my marriage to her in 1947 but the Miss Wong proposition was that she would be sort of a companion for me. When I gave my Corry the letter to read and the snapshot to see, her only remark was "by all means, have them come over. That's just what you need, a concubine!"

Needless to say, I'd have no part in sponsoring such an immigration setup. The Communist regime in China, however, took care of the situation for me. Mr. Kiang could possibly now be some kind of a Commie official, a dead Chinese or just one of the many poor slobs existing there in bondage. —THE END

# Book REVIEWS



**THE OTHER SIDE OF THE RIVER: RED CHINA TODAY.** By Edgar Snow. Random House, New York. November 1962. \$10.00.

This is a report on Communist China from a visit there in 1960 by an American foreign correspondent who studied and worked in China for many years, and knows personally many of the present Chinese leaders. It is based on interviews with more than 70 of China's leaders and talks with many more Chinese, plus observations from wide travels throughout the country. Included is information on Communist China's economics, collectivization, educational system, army, agricultural crisis, relations with Russia, and possible future. Mr. Snow seems to be greatly impressed with what he saw in China.

**VOYAGE TO THE FAR EAST.** By Helmut Thielicke. Muhlenberg Press. October 1962. \$4.25.

The diary of a quiet sea journey on a Hamburg-America Line freighter from Antwerp to the Far East, by a noted German theologian who used his time in meditation and in catching up on his reading as well as in fascinated observation of life aboard ship and in the ports. His lively intelligence and keen interest in everything he saw, especially what he saw of the ports of Communist China, heighten the appeal of this book.

**BUT NOT IN SHAME.** By John Toland. New American Library (Signet). November 1962. Paperback, 95c.

A tense, dramatic and harrowing report on the first six months of the war in the Pacific from the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor through the period of initial Allied defeats. Full of exciting and poignant personal anecdotes. This sold quite well for Random House in 1961.

**MARCH TO CALUMNY: THE STORY OF AMERICAN POW'S IN THE KOREAN WAR.** By Albert B. Biderman. The Macmillan Co., New York. November 1962. \$4.95

A thoroughly documented book declaring that the extent and seriousness of "misbehavior" (that appeared to be collaboration) among American prisoners in Korea have been magnified and their more stalwart qualities minimized. The

author's particular target for rebuttal is Eugene Kinkead's "In Every War But One" (Norton, 1959). Biderman, who has done intensive studies of prisoner behavior, from World War II on, was a project scientist for a 1955 Air Force study of Communist exploitation of prisoners of war in Korea.

**OLSON'S ORIENT GUIDE.** By Harvey S. Olson. J. B. Lippincott Co., Philadelphia, Pa. December 1962. \$6.95.

A treasury of advice on Far Eastern travel including ships and planes, itineraries, customs, food, shopping, and other helpful comment and data. The author covers Cambodia, Hawaii, Hong Kong and Macao, the Philippines, Singapore and Malaya, Taiwan, Thailand and the Republic of Viet Nam. Contains much generally useful description and advice on the Orient.

**MASTERPIECES OF WAR REPORTING.** By Louis L. Snyder. Julian Messner, Inc., New York. November 1962. \$10.00.

A big book about the Big War, written by more than 150 combat correspondents from both the Allied and Axis nations. Represented in the book are world famous writers like William Shirer, Quentin Reynolds, Ed Murrow, Ernie Pyle, Irwin Shaw, Ernest Hemingway, Rebecca West, Walter Lippmann, John Steinbeck and Gertrude Stein. Included also are many dispatches translated for the first time. A vivid narrative of the entire war.

**ESCAPE FROM RED CHINA.** By Robert Loh as told to Humphrey Evans. Coward-McCann, N. Y. November 1962. \$5.75.

Story of a young Chinese intellectual's experience of the drab, fearful life in Communist China, his utter disillusionment with the brutality and dishonesty of the Communist leaders, and his long-planned, hazardous flight out of the country. When he made up his mind to leave, he was an officer of a flour mill, a lecturer on Communist theory, and the discreet wooer of a celebrated Chinese opera star, who happened to be married. He was even sent to Russia with an official mission. Robert Loh now lives in Washington, D. C.

**THE PLEASURES OF A NONCOMFOR-**  
**MIST.** By Lin Yutang. World Publishing Co. November 1962. \$5.95.

Essays notable for their clear insight into the field of Chinese art, religion and letters, as well as other subjects. The book is divided into three main categories: lectures on Chinese philosophic methods; random sketches on amusing thoughts, mostly inspired by American life; and essays on Chinese arts and letters.



A SECTION of U.S. cemetery at Kunming, China, with a few Chinese graves in foreground. Photo by Naomi J. Kenward.

**Basha Officers**

• At a recent dinner held in the Marines Memorial Club, San Francisco, the following officers for the new year were installed by the General George W. Sliney Basha: Past commander, Joel Springer; commander, Jerry Moore; vice commander, Syd Wilson; finance officer, Mae Bissell; adjutant, Ila Kidd; judge advocate, Ed Cusack; chaplain, Sue Upfill; sergeant-at-arms, George Chan; directors for the corporation, Thomas McCurdy, Dr. Herbert Stuart and Ray Kirkpatrick. Average attendance at eight dinner meetings during the past year was 40 persons.

RAY KIRKPATRICK,  
San Francisco, Calif.

**Jesse L. Miller**

• It is with sadness that I write you news of the fatal heart attack of my husband, Jesse L. Miller, age 51. He passed away on June 30. In private life he was a mechanic and owner of his own business, a Texaco service station, in Washington C. H., Ohio. In World War II he served as a Technical Sergeant with the 322nd Fighter Control Squadron in China.

MRS. JESSE L. MILLER  
Washington C. H., Ohio

**Ken Tyler**

• Ken Tyler, who flew for Chiang Kai-shek when Japan invaded China in the late 1930's, was a victim of a recent plane crash at Henderson, Ky. At his death he was president of Tyler Fiberglass Products, Inc., of Henderson. Survivors include his widow and a daughter of Henderson; a son, George, of Farmingdale, N. Y., and his father, George Tyler, of Oakland, Calif.

LOUIS W. GWIN,  
Percy, Ill.

**James L. Pouncey**

• Former Lt. James L. Pouncey of Stevenson, Wash., who served with the 797th Forestry Engineers in Burma during World War II, died Sept. 29 in the Veterans Hospital at Vancouver, Wash. He had been active in his church (Mormon) and boys groups, as well as reserve officer and veterans affairs.

EUGENE B. RAYMOND,  
Clallam Bay, Wash.

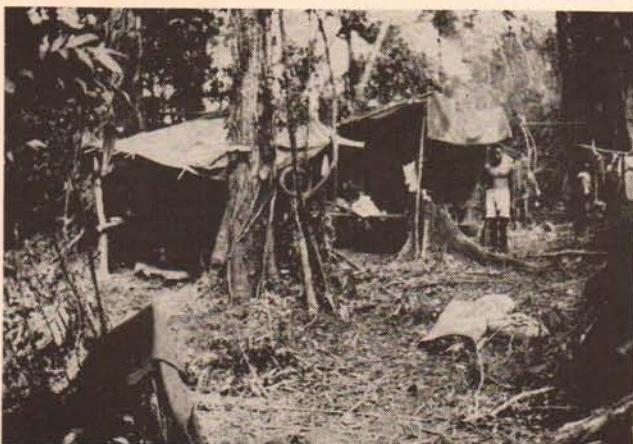
**301st Service Group**

• Just a line to say keep up the good work and keep the Ex-CBI Roundup on the map. I sure am glad to see the 301st Service Group are still around. In July issue G. E. Gene Zimmerman from Alton, Ohio, who was in my outfit so will say "Hello Gene." I also had some visitors this summer, Capt. Leo Gardiner, also Capt. Lou Solomon and our First Sgt. Frank G. Banister. Sure glad to have the 301st S. G. call on me anytime they are around. I also would like to hear from any of the old gang of the 301st Service Group. I am now retired after 40 years service.

CWO OTTO H. REISS,  
P.O. Box 283,  
Concord, Mass.



RED CROSS bungalow at Infantry Training Center near Kunming, China. Photo by Naomi J. Kenward.



CHINESE CAMP on the Mogaung, next to the 1304th Engineer Battalion, in 1944. Photo by William J. Lewis.

**Seagrave Fund**

• Our sincerest thanks to the members of the C.B.I.V.A., and the Roundup readers for the kindness shown to the Dr. Gordon Seagrave Fund. A good-sized bank draft has already been sent to the "Burma Surgeon" to help him carry on his great work. Let us not forget this grand old man, what he has done, and what he stands for, an unpaid hero in promoting the true meaning of "Americanism"!! No contribution is too small, not one penny is taken off for so-called expenses. It sure would be nice to send the "Good Doctor" another godly sum for Christmas. Let's keep with the holiday spirit and keep those dollars rolling. (This is all tax deductible).

PHIL PACKARD,  
180 E. 17 St.,  
Brooklyn, 26, N. Y.

*CBler Packard is chairman of the Dr. Gordon Seagrave Fund, and would welcome contributions.—Ed.*

**Charles "Chuck" Stacy**

• Charles "Chuck" Stacy of Toledo, Ohio, a well-known member of CBIVA and former member of the 73rd Evacuation Hospital, died November 3 from burns received in an explosion

and fire at the Sun Oil Company where he was employed. Chuck was a familiar figure at CBIVA conventions and at the time of his death was commander of the Toledo Basha.

RICHARD H. POPPE,  
Loveland, Ohio

**Col. Frank G. Cromley**

• Col. Frank G. Cromley, a CBI veteran and long-time Roundup subscriber, died unexpectedly May 19, 1962, at his home in Minneapolis, Kans.

RALPH MARTIN,  
Kansas City, Mo.

**Ex-CBI Man Retires**

• Frank N. Nurthen Jr. recently retired from the Pennsylvania State Police after 26 years of service. Trooper Nurthen was a member of the Criminal Investigation Division, stationed at Ledo, Chabua, 101-mile mark on the Ledo Road, and at the junction of the Burma and Ledo Roads with the smuggling detail of the CID. He also conducted an undercover detail with the post exchange in Calcutta, and was involved in the murder investigation of Herman Perry, who was known as the "King of the Jungle."

GILBERT C. COCKERHAM,  
Malvern, Pa.

**Support for Seagrave**

• Since accidentally stumbling on your journal three years ago, I have anticipated each new issue as it was a source of bringing to mind many old friends whom I knew during the war years in Burma and India. It is very gratifying to see the united support being given by your periodical and the CBI organization to the great work that Dr. Seagrave is continuing to do in Burma.

MILTON A. DUSHKIN, M. D.  
North Shore Hospital,  
Winnetka, Ill.



WATER purification plant at hostel of 172nd General Hospital, Kunming, China. Photo by Dr. Furman H. Tyner.

## Commander's

### Message

by

Eugene R. Brauer

National Commander  
China-Burma-India  
Veterans Assn.



Veterans Day became an even more meaningful day this year when but a week before we received the tragic word of the death of Charles Stacy of Toledo. Chuck, Toledo Basha commander and an Ohio State Department vice commander, suffered critical burns in an explosion at his place of employment. Fatal complications developed while he was on the road to recovery. Wayne Keller, Walbridge, was my officially designated representative to the funeral at which white-capped CBIVA members served as pall-bearers.

And with a sad heart we also note the death of Sylvia Cicerello. Joe and Sylvia were never strangers at any CBIVA affair that has ever been attended.

I know all of you fellow CBers will join the many of us who knew both Chuck and Sylvia personally, in remembering them in our prayers.

\* \* \*

Youngstown, Ohio, became the mecca of CBI-land Oct. 20 when the Ohio State Department convened there to install Edward J. Stipes as commander. Six national officials and guests from Pennsylvania, Illinois, Wisconsin, Florida and Ohio, gave the installation party an intra-state flavoring.

Again, I had the pleasure to install the officials. As an added thrill I was presented the key to the city of Youngstown by Mahoning Valley Basha Commander Ethel Yavorsky.

I am sure this was State Commander Stipes' proudest moment as he received the personal congratulations of Sr. Vice

*This space is contributed to the CBIVA by Ex-CBI Roundup as a service to the many readers who are members of the Assn., of which Roundup is the official publication. It is important to remember that CBIVA and Roundup are entirely separate organizations. Your subscription to Roundup does not entitle you to membership in CBIVA, nor does your membership in CBIVA entitle you to a subscription to Roundup. You need not be a member of CBIVA in order to subscribe to Roundup and vice versa.*  
—Eds.

Commander Hal Reinholt; Howard Clager, Jr. Vice Commander; Joe Pohorsky, adjutant-finance officer; Dick Poppe, PRO, and Dennis Loughman, provost marshal.

My thanks to Joe and Tillie Nivert for their personal hospitality and the entire Youngstown gang for their warm welcome.

\* \* \*

Chicago Basha had its most glorious day in its lengthy history, Nov. 3, when it hosted the CBIVA National Executive Committee meeting and combined festivities with installation ceremonies marking Emil Tessari's elevation as the Windy City basha commander. Special plaudits were given Bill Moerk, the outgoing commander for the wonderful hospitality extended to us all.

Doc Barcella, who needs no introduction, lent a big helping hand in arrangements and was MC at the installation banquet at which I was invited to perform the ceremonies of administering the oath of obligation. For once Doc was speechless, both vocally and hand-wise, when presented a 7-foot Chianti decanter.

Johnny Platt, the magician master, performed the flaming sword act and mystified all of us both evenings in the Chicago hospitality house at the LaSalle hotel.

CBI member Wayne Sit dished up a ding hao Chinese-American smorgasbord at his South Pacific restaurant in the loop that more than satisfied even a Ketchumarean appetite.

All the Chi wives and members deserve a big hand for being perfect hosts.

\* \* \*

Details of the executive board meeting will be recounted in next month's newsletter with but a few exceptions.

Dayton, Ohio, became the newest addition to our CBIVA family of bashas as we accepted unanimously the charter application of the Miami Valley Basha of Ohio. Thanks to the efforts of Past Commander Ellsworth Green and Howard Clager, junior vice commander, the charter was issued on the eve of the 167th anniversary marking the founding of Dayton as a city. We are extremely proud of this new addition.

Secondly, we authorized issuance of Youth Organization membership cards for sons and daughters of CBIVA members.

Our Dr. Gordon Seagrave fund has dispatched its first \$500 check to the Burma surgeon. It would be nice if each of us would remember this fund during the Christmas holiday season.

Remember your pledge of one new member during 1963!

May each of you have the Merriest of Christmases, and may the New Year bring you joy, abundant wealth and immeasurable good health.



HEADQUARTERS of Company E, 2nd Battalion, 475th Infantry, at Hwachi, near Kweiyang, China, from March to May, 1945. Photo by Reuben A. Holden.

**Ma Ma Fu Fu**

• Some months ago Ex-CBI Roundup made reference to a book which was soon to have been available. I have tried all bookstores and they can find no trace of it. The author is George Russell, the title "Ma Ma Fu Fu." Can you give me the publisher's name, or any other information?

COLBY HALL, M.D.,  
Los Angeles, Calif.

*We're still awaiting with interest this new book by George Russell, but have had no further information.—Eds.*

**Mahoning Valley**

• The Mahoning Valley Basha, CBIVA, held the November meeting at the home of Commander Ethel Yavorsky. Election of officers was held with the reelection of Commander Yavorsky. Other officers named are Frank Patrick, Struthers, Ohio, as senior vice-commander; Larry Dombetta of Youngstown, judge advocate; and Frank Jessick of Youngstown, provost marshal. Officers appointed by the commander are James DeChristeforo of Niles, Ohio, junior vice-commander; Roseann DeChristeforo of Niles, secretary; Joseph T. Nivert of Youngstown, ad-

jutant-finance; Warren Ferrell of Youngstown, service officer; and Amelio Catelina of New Castle, Pa., chaplain. A silent auction was held with all proceeds to be used for the Christmas party on Dec. 15, for all kiddies of the basha. The Patrick, Tabak and Jessick families are committees in charge. Installation of local basha 1963 officers will take place in January with Joe and Tillie Nivert making all arrangements.

ETHEL G. YAVORSKY,  
Poland, Ohio

**Dr. V. F. Houser**

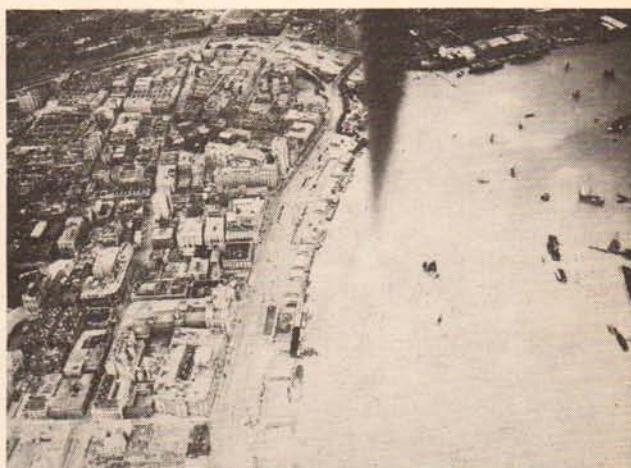
• Announcing the sudden death on October 20 of Dr. V. F. Houser, 57, of 400 North Old Ranch Road, Arcadia, Calif. He left his wife, Dorothy, and four children, Monica, Mary, Melinda and Phillip. He is the former well-liked Major Houser of the 73rd Evacuation Hospital, stationed in Assam and Burma.

MRS. CHARLES FARRELL,  
Riverside, Mich.

**Charter Subscriber**

• Have been a subscriber of Ex-CBI Roundup since the beginning and have always enjoyed every issue. I was with the 54th Service Squadron of the 68th Service group until the 315th Depot Supply Squadron came in and I was transferred to it. I worked in the Air Corps supply instrument warehouse in Kunming. Have not seen too many names of men in my outfit. I am a correctional officer with the Minneapolis Division of Correction. I have passed my 20th year with them now. I would appreciate hearing from any of the boys of the 54th or 315th squadrons.

ROGER V. BUEGHLY,  
221 Jersey Ave. N.,  
Minneapolis, Minn.



AIRVIEW of Shanghai, China, and the Bund, with Whangpoo River on right. Photo by Dr. Furman H. Tyner.

# Real Indian Tea!

Delicious!  
Flavorful!  
Exotic!

Finest  
Blend  
of  
Oriental  
Tea



Remember  
your  
Friends  
with  
this  
Unusual  
Gift

Packed and Selected Exclusively for Us! Black, Flavorful Assam tea, large colorful 250 gram tin with double sealer, wonderful for Christmas-giving. **Low Price only \$1.95 per tin, or 3 for \$5.00 POSTPAID.**

Special low Price  
by the 60-tin Case

**BAZAAR  
of  
INDIA**

1646 Lawrence Street

Denver 2, Colorado